THE

Second Part,

OR A

Continuation

OF THE

Secret Hiſtory,

OF

Queen *ZARAH*,

AND THE

Zarazians;

BEING

A Looking-glaſs for —— in the Kingdom of *Albigion*.

Faithfully Tranſlated from the *Italian* Copy now lodg'd in the *Vatican* at *Rome*, and never before Printed in any Language.

Albigion, Printed in the Year 1705.

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THE PREFACE.

THE Kind Reception the first Part met with, has encourag'd me to Translate this Second, which I hope may prove as Acceptable to the Candid Reader, whom I shall no longer detain from the Story, than to remove the Misunderstandings some have conceiv'd, as if this was

a Modern History, and related to several Affairs Transacted near Home, *to the great Prejudice of the Original Manuscript, which I can assure them is highly Valued at* Rome, *and whoever refuses to believe, may be satisfied there if they think it worth their while to go thither on Purpose. In the mean time I wou'd have them rest satisfied the whole* Story *is a* Fiction, *that there is no such Country in the World as* Albigion, *nor any such Person now Living, or ever was, as* Zarah, *or the*

the other Names Characte-
riz'd, either in This or the
First Part.

The Manuscript is so An-
cient that 'tis suppos'd to be
Writ by Cain in the Land
of Nod, before Cities were
Built, or Men had form'd
themselves into Government,
and 'tis taken now for a kind of
Prophesie against some Wick-
ed F— F——te that shou'd
in Future Days come into the
World with this Mark of the
B—t upon her, that she
shou'd be a Second P——
Joan, and R—— the

Ch——, by Reigning Absolute over her Sovereign, who ought to be Supream Head, both in Matters Civil and Ecclesiastical.

However the Matter may be Construed, it can relate to nothing transacted now-a-days, and therefore I am apt to think it is something yet to come, having never Read or Heard of such a Character before: And I almost believe it impossible any Nation under the Moon *ever cou'd produce a Creature of so little*

tle Use to the rest of the Creation besides her self, as this Wonder of her Sex, Queen Zarah *is feign'd to be. That alone is sufficient to perswade me this Story is all a Romantick* Tale of a Tub, *tho' some People, I cannot tell from what Grounds, are positive there is some Truth in it, and they fancy strange things, that they can tell the whole Design; that there is no Mystery in it, but the Mystery of I——y, and so*

pleaſe themſelves with vain Imaginations of I know not what.

THE Secret History OF Queen *ZARAH*, &c.

Albania had not been long ſet upon the Throne of her Anceſtors, and as yet indeed it was not to be expected ſhe ſhou'd underſtand how to hold the Reins of Government ſteadily, but *Zarah* pluck'd the ſlack Ones out of her Hand; and

tho' she left those of *Power* behind her, she made sure of all that were of *Profit*, knowing, like a skilful Politician, they wou'd at last produce whatever her Ambition cou'd desire.

The Court having laid for this small space of Time much in the same Condition that *Aurantio* left it, 'twas high time now to think of a *Remove*, in Order to which *Zarah* cast her Eyes about to see what F— she cou'd find to place neareſt *Albania*'s Person, who at the same time might both secure and promote her own Interest. It happen'd at this Juncture *Devonius*, as Haughty and Noble a Peer as any was in *Albigion*, was then Principal *Staff-Officer* of the *Houshold*,

Houſhold, and *Zarah* finding ſhe cou'd not eaſily diſplace him, was reſolved to weary him out, by diſcountenancing all his Under Officers, or make him obey Her Commands, by placing ſuch in them as ſhe directed. One Day there happen'd a Vacancy, upon which Inſtance was immediately made to *Zarah* to ſupply it, for no Body preſumed *Devonius* wou'd be ſo Bold as to aſſert his own Right when it was contrary to *Zarah's* Will and Pleaſure; but this Conſideration did not in the leaſt affect our Gallant Peer, who was ſo hardy as to enter himſelf into the Liſts with this Powerful Enemy.

Zarah took upon her the Nomination, and ſent away Her Officer without Ceremony

to be confirm'd by *Devonius*; but to her great Mortification, and contrary to the leaſt of her Expectations, he ſent her a huffing Meſſage back again, nor fail'd that Minute to Second it himſelf, by waiting on her with an Air of Grandeur Equal, if not Superior, to her own; *Madam*, ſaid he, *Are you Queen of* Albigion? *Or am I* L~~ord~~d S~~teward~~ *of the* H~~oushot~~d? *If you are the firſt, take this Staff? If I am the laſt, I only do my Duty by this Juſtification, and you have done more than yours to be the Occaſion of it.* She was ſtartled at this, it being the firſt Rub ſhe had met withal ſince ſhe fancy'd her ſelf Abſolute Miſtreſs of the C~~our~~t.

We need not Doubt but this Uſage made *Zarah* cautious how ſuch Men of Spirit as *Devonius* were imploy'd again in any Conſiderable Poſts that might Interfere with Her Government; therefore ſhe pitch'd upon *Canutius* as a proper Perſon for her Turn, and one who wou'd make himſelf eaſie under her Adminiſtration; accordingly he had a Staff, and was made the next Great O——— in the C——t to *Devonius*: I don't ſay it was given him.

For *Canutius* happening once to be at Play with *Zarah*, he loſt more than a Talent of Gold to her; not at *Cards or Dice*, which were not known in thoſe Days, but at a certain Game they call in

Albigion

Albigion Looſe-all. And this Lady, who was always fam'd for Gratitude, finding ſhe had ſo great an Obligation laid upon her, and he the only Perſon in the World ſhe would have had that Place, without further Delay put him in Poſſeſſion of his Deſires; which ſome Malicious People ſaid he Purchas'd at too Dear a Rate: But howſoever it was, he was gratified, and *Zarah* pleas'd ſhe had got a *Gameſter* that underſtood *Looſe-all* ſo well.

The People of *Albigion*, which is a Country full of Ill-nature, made ſtrange Conſtructions on this Affair; ſome talk'd very looſly of *Zarah*, others Reproach'd *Albania*, the beſt Woman in the World, for giving ſuch Liberties to a Subject as

Sove-

Sovereigns themſelves have been check'd for. But all the World agreed ſhe was impos'd on by the ſubtle Inſinuations and Devices of *Zarah*, who got ſuch an Aſcendant over her in her Youth, ſhe cou'd never ſhake off all her Life after: But let the Matter be as it wou'd, *Albania* was never free from her Influence, no more than ſhe was from her Perſon, for ſhe ſtuck to her like a *Bur* to a Garment.

The chief Reaſon indeed why there was no Thought at this Time of Day of freeing the C——t from this *H*——*L*——*h*, which ſuck'd the L——s B——d of the Nation, tho' there was an Able Miniſtry then choſe, becauſe *Hippolito* was the Man pitch'd on, as the moſt fitting

to

to ſerve his Country in that Station in which he was imploy'd, and which required one of a double Capacity, which he was Happy in, to wit, that of a good Stateſman and a good Soldier. This made it neceſſary for *Albania* to give him all the Encouragement imaginable, and beſtow upon him all thoſe Honours his Merits might juſtly claim. While *Albigion* was equally pleas'd, both with her Choice and the Diſpenſation of her Favours, but at the ſame time cou'd not forbear to reflect, that *Zarah* had done nothing for the Publick Service that cou'd deſerve ſuch diſtinguiſhing Marks of Her Sovereign's Bounty, as were fit to make her equal to her Q——n, and had already given her that

Title

Title in the Mouths of all Her Subjects; many of which had felt the Resentments of her Anger keen as that of Regal Power.

Among the rest there is this particular Instance: As she was passing through the Streets of *Lodunum*, where she often went to Traffick with the Merchants, and where the Traders wou'd tremble when they saw her at their Shops, ever since the Story they had amongst them of her Cunning Way of purchasing of *Velvets*; through these Streets as she was passing in her Chair, an Unfortunate *Aga* met her passing by without Ceremony, his Cymeter broke the Glass, for which his Commission paid in a few Days; for her Imperial Highness dis-

covering

covering his Name by her Servants when he waited at *Hippolito's Levee*, without concealing her Anger, or the Cauſe of the *Aga's* Diſgrace, got him abſolutely *Caſhier'd* from the Army, not ſuffering him to be heard, or his Friends to make Interceſſion for him.

This, as we may eaſily believe, provok'd the *Aga* to write the following Letter to *Zarah*, which he caus'd to be dropt in a Publick *Coffee-Houſe*, and was read thus; Madam, *How great a Shame it is for* Albigion *to ſee* Albania *the Mother of her Country, a Princeſs who loves Goodneſs, and the Repoſe of Her Subjects, ſacrificed to the Ambition of a* ———, *who renders her the weakeſt of all Women.*

men. The Generous Hippolito *has too much Honour to Espouse your Actions,* Albania *too much Justice to Pardon your Crimes,* Albigion *too much Power to Bear your Usurpations, and I too much Wrong to Forgive the Injury.*

This made a terrible Noise throughout *Lodunum*, and every Body pity'd the poor *Aga*, who was made a Sacrifice to her Indignation: And the whole Soldiery were so concern'd, it made the Young *Rakes* think coolly in an Evening, lest by getting Drunk they shou'd stumble against *Zarah*'s Chair, and instead of breaking Her Glasses, be broke themselves. Some of them were so dis-spirited at the Narration of the

Aga's

Aga's Fate, they wou'd tremble at the Name, and as ſoon face the Mouth of a Cannon, as a Chair in the open Streets.

But theſe things did not at all affect the good Fortune of *Zarah*, which pour'd in upon her like a Deluge, and had been enough to have ſwept away the moſt Politick F——te, had not *Albania*, like a Rock, ſcreen'd her from the Inſults of Tempeſtuous Waves, which began to roul upon her apace from the oppoſite Shore. *Danterius* and *Roffenſis* ſucceeded well in their Councils at Home, and *Ormondo* was ſucceſsful abroad, *Hippolito* in the mean time had done little in the Field; ſo that *Zarah* had nothing to boaſt of, whereon to ground a Reaſon

Reaſon for her Uſurpations over her Fellow Subjects. *Mulgarvius* upon this began to make her very uneaſie, which ſoon put her upon the Methods of finding out a Way to make him ſilent, by leſs Attendance on the Court. So that Counſels were held without *Mulgarvius* being call'd, and Buſineſs done without his Secrecy.

This being obſerv'd by *Danterius*, who was much valued by all Men for his Wiſe Counſels, ſoon ſour'd his Temper from the Publick Buſineſs, for he found he was going to be made a Tool to *Fuimus*, *Solano*, *Devonius*, and the reſt of *Volpone*'s Stateſmen, to whom now he cou'd reckon himſelf no better than a Under Secretary.

This

This gaul'd him to the Heart to think of, conſidering the Services he had done, and the Slights he had receiv'd from C——t by Means, as it was ſuppos'd, of *Zarah*, who Monopoliz'd all Favours to her ſelf and F——y.

Roſſenſis, *Danterius*, and *Mulgarvius*, perceiv'd now amongſt themſelves they cou'd no longer ſerve *Albigion*, ſince *Albania* was reſolved to enter into other Counſels; and it ſeem'd plain to them no Body cou'd continue in the Service of *Albania*, that were not firſt reſolv'd to do Homage to Queen *Zarah*; ſhe wou'd admit of no Rival in C——t or C——l; and it is well known *Volpone* pays more Court to *Zarah's Couchee* than *Albania's Levee*.

For

For about this Time *Somerius*, a very great Officer in the C——t, having Buſineſs of Importance with *Volpone*, and ſeeing him go towards *Zarah*'s Lodgings after Council was over, depended upon it he ſhou'd find him there. Now *Somerius* was one of thoſe who never made it his Study to know how to Cog, Flatter and Prevaricate, and who never was of Opinion that the Chief Virtue of the C——t conſiſted in knowing how to Lie well, but rather valued himſelf upon having a good Stock of Freedom and Plainneſs. *Volpone* on the other Hand was a Man who † knew perfectly how to wear Two F—s under One H—d, that was to F——ge, Flatter and Diſſemble, and never to

† "ſavoit parfaitement bien ſ—k degriſer ſes penſées, il etoit maitre abſolu de ſes regards, il avoit l'art de forger

ſpeak as he thought: And this he did for certain Reaſons and Maxims which he wou'd have perſwaded *Albigion* to believe were void of all Deſign and Artifice, and managed with ſuch Temper and *Moderation*, that the leaſt Inconſtancy or Levity might not appear in them.

As ſcon as *Somerius* had diſpatch'd his Affairs with *Albania*, he haſtes with all ſpeed to *Zarah*'s Apartment, and enquires for *Volpone*; the Old *Moor*, who generally attended there, and having his Inſtructions, deny'd he had been there that Evening; but told him he believ'd he might find his L—— there another time. *Yes*, anſwer'd *Somerius* angerly and aloud, that the whole

Gallery

Gallery might hear him; *I believe so too, I may find* V——e *here, if I come early enough, and* —— *with* Z——h. The *Moor* was Thunder-struck at these Words, proceeding from so Great a Man, and having so many People then in the Gallery, therefore, without any further Reply, clapt the Door on his G——, and withdrew into the Lodgings.

This did not a little provoke *Somerius*, who was Haughty, tho' he was *Volpone*'s Creature in other Respects; therefore he turn'd from the Door with Anger in his Countenance, and Resentment in his Breast, and the first Person he met, which happen'd to be *Lunarius*, who had formerly been a Rakish P—, and whom he entertains with this Discourse, after

having told him how he had been us'd; *My Lord*, said he, *Few Persons follow the C—t without engaging themselves in the Service, either of the Prince, or of some Chief Minister, to make their Fortune: A Friend of ours, who hath fix'd himself in a good One, made Use of a great deal of Art and Industry, agreeable to a Proverb known and us'd in Courtship, that is, to win the Maid before the Mistress, hereby to facilitate his Design, as well knowing that to be the only Way; in order to which he set all his Craft on work to gain the Maid, that by her he might find out her Mistresses Humour, and consequently to discern her Inclinations, without taking notice of the greatness of her Pomp and Condition, or having that due Regard to the Interest of her K——ms.* In

In fine, by this Courſe of his he came ſo perfectly to underſtand her, and pleaſe her, by complying with her in whatſoever he ſaw acceptable to her, that he very eaſily grew to obtain of her whatſoever he would, and to ſettle his Fortune ſo advantageouſly as he has done; in order to which the cloſe Intereſt which he made, and the Friendſhip which he procured with her Cr—— and D——k, was the main Spoak in the Wheel of his Fortune, and is ſtill of the moſt conſiderable Uſe and Aſſiſtance to him.

I know who you mean, anſwer'd Lunarius; *and it muſt be very troubleſome*, ſaid he, *for a Perſon of his Condition, who is ſo much courted himſelf, to ſubmit to the Service of a* ——, *whom*

he must be more careful to please than to please the Q——*n herself*; *and there is no Doubt*, continued he, *but he who undertakes such kind of Service, finds at first a great many Difficulties in his Way, because he never moves but by a Second Motion, in respect of his Duty to one, and Obedience to another: But Pains and Troubles grow easie by Custom, whereas otherwise they are Odious and Burthensome; and some Men rather than they will use themselves to 'em, are content to lose what others gain, by undergoing them, tho' they are Matters both of Honour and Advantage, since by Humility and Assiduity we vanquish the greatest Difficulties; but every Body cannot follow the C—t, and maintain himself in the Service of a W——, and*

and a Courtier; every Body cannot yield such entire Obedience to a State P——te, *and make a Thousand Congees and Cringes for a favourable Nod, or a good Look.*

Tounario, no Enemy to *Volpone* and *Zarah*, and a Friend in the Interest with those Lords then Discoursing, standing near, and hearing great Part of what had been said, join'd Company with them, and spoke thus, *My Lords, If I may have the Liberty to give my Opinion of the Affair you seem to take Notice of, betwixt* Volpone *and* Zarah; *that Lady hath never much troubled her self at what either the C—t or the Town hath said concerning her frequent meeting Early and Late with* Volpone, *since they are so nearly Ally'd. Tho' some Enemies and*

Ill-natur'd People, censure her Guilty of a great deal of Im———, for showing so little Shame at it, yet the most Religious and Moderate Sort of People are perswaded to the contrary, and the most clear-sighted Eyes turn it to her Advantage, that her Constancy and Perseverance in the Matter are the Justification of her Innocence; and that good Intentions never make any Account at all of the Noise rais'd from Detraction: Guilt is never without a Character, we may Read it in the Criminals Faces; it will appear in their very Eyes, and express that the Contempt of Virtue hath caused an Insurrection of the Passions.

Now if these Two Persons, continued he, *who are allow'd to have great Spirits, had neither*

Shame

Shame or Fear expreſt upon their Faces, how wou'd it be poſſible for a Woman, whoſe Sex is no leſs baſhful than weak, to have the Confidence to appear at C—t, and ſhow her Face, after having blemiſh'd her Honour, and eſpecially it being Publiſh'd?

As there are different Lovers, ſo there are different Loves: And tho' that Sympathy which in all Likelihood is between them, upon the account of their Reſemblance to each other in Politicks, may have frequent Privacies, and thoſe frequent Privacies ſome little Kindneſs, yet I believe, ſays he, *neither of their Deſires have tranſcended the Bounds of an agreeable Converſation.* He wou'd have gone on, but the lateneſs of the Night prevented him, the Company

breaking up, and leaving the C—t.

However, the Subject of this Debate was talk'd about Publickly the next Morning, insomuch that *Aranio* fought a certain Young Lord for spreading the Report, but being happily prevented from doing further Mischief, they enter'd into a Discourse of irresistible Love. 'Love, says *Aranio*, is a Torch 'which kindles another, and 'Burns not long alone, and 'without help; the Experience 'I have had in this Lady is 'certain. I have ever observ'd 'in that Adorable Person a 'Spark of the Fire of Love, 'which wou'd have been ex-'tinguish'd if I had not stirr'd 'it up. And tho' Men perswa-'ded me it was as easie to dis-

'entangle

'entangle one's ſelf from Love,
'as it was to break with a
'Friend when one had a Mind
'to it, yet I have found all
'theſe Rules untrue in my ſelf,
'and that they have nothing in
'them but vain Imaginations.
'As for the diſtinction of a
'Lover from a Friend, I have
'likewiſe had the ſame Moti-
'ons with thoſe who were of
'Opinion they might ſpur on
'my Hopes to the Atchievement
'of my Deſires; and as for the
'Facility of forſaking her, tho'
'another's, Alaſs! I have not
'found a Poſſibility yet to effect
'it, after having put in Pra-
'ctice all the ſevere Leſſons I
'cou'd think of to puniſh my
'ſelf.

'I have tried all things in
'vain, as flattered by the Opi-

'nion that ſhe had yet a Hea-
'ven of Love left, which I
'might Cultivate: Hereby you
'may judge of the Effect of
'Love, and the Power of In-
'tereſt; and that the Chains
'of ſuch as adore them are too
'ſtrong to be broken. I ſhou'd
'not reckon my ſelf Guilty of
'Impiety, *ſays he*, if I ſay, that
'Love which we bear to Wo-
'men deprives us of the Uſe of
'our *Free-will*, and hath a
'kind of Tyrannical Influence
'upon our Liberty. I have
'ever obſerv'd this Truth a-
'mongſt Lovers, when I have
'Read in Hiſtories how *many*
'have died for their Miſtreſ-
'ſes; and how a violent Paſ-
'ſion of Love ſlights all kind
'of Danger and Conſiderations
'whatſoever; and I had ſuffici-

'ent

'ent Experience of this Power 'in my ſelf, when I fought ra- 'ther for the Intereſts of her 'whom I worſhipp'd, than for 'my Friend, whoſe Honour 'was much more concern- 'ed.

'And yet it is very true, '*ſaid the Young Lord*, that Du- 'els which are fought upon 'ſuch ſlight Grounds have ſel- 'dom any good Iſſue. For '*Cupid*, who is but a 'Boy, is apt to be pettiſh 'without Cauſe, and comes 'often home by Weeping-croſs, 'when he plays with *Bellona*; 'whereas on the other Side, if 'the Juſtice of a Cauſe preſides, 'the Event proves as favoura- 'ble as can be deſired. *Aranio* was going to have reply'd, when *Volpone* having heard of the

the Buſtle, ſent for him in great haſte, and calling him into the Cloſet to ſtop the Fury of his hot and giddy Spirit, and to inſtruct him how to behave himſelf in theſe Affairs, he ſaid to him thus.

The Love I have for your Family obliges me to give you a ſevere Reprimand; for it is not the VVay to get Reputation and Eſteem to be found Quarrelling, and engag'd in a Duel. It is true, that of all the Parts which compoſe a true Man of Honour Boldneſs *is the moſt remarkable, and Valour the moſt neceſſary; ſince without theſe Two Qualities a Man who pretends to Bravery cannot be valued, nor ſo much as aſpire to it; for the former ſets him forth, and makes him conſide-*

considerable both in Company and at Court, the latter gives him good Success in War and Duels; but with this Proviso still, that these fine Accomplishments be attended with Moderation and Judgment, which are the Productions of the Understanding, and the Beauty of the Soul. For Valour, which is an impetuous Heat, that for our Satisfaction throws us upon Dangers, is hurtful to a Man, unless he deliberately thinks before he executes. So that to fight, as you have done to Day with a Young Lord, upon little or no Ground, and for a slight and frivolous Occasion, exposes your Honour to every Idle Blast of Fame, and your Interest to the Hazard of a foolish Vanity. Here *Aranio* had not Patience to let him proceed, but

interrupted

interrupted him thus. Good Heavens! My Lord, *ſaid he*, do you call your being in — with *Zarah* a ſlight and frivolous Occaſion? And had I little or no Ground to Quarrel when you was tax'd with In———t and A———-y? If I err'd to Day, I am ſure your L—dſ—p err'd laſt Night. Theſe laſt Words had like to have ruin'd his L—dſ—p's Pretenſions to *Moderation*, for he was forced to ſummon all his Conduct and his Reaſon to ſupport himſelf; nor were they able to calm the impetuous Stream of Blood that boyl'd into his Face, but in ſpight of all his Temper he diſcover'd his Confuſion, which made *Aranio* retire with ſome Pleaſure after his former Mortification, and cou'd not

forbear

forbear now reflecting that he was Criminal, in engaging for one, who instead of returning his Gratitude, went to read a *Lecture* to him, that when it came to his own Turn he was not able to Practice One Lesson of.

Tho' this Matter blew like a Whirlwind about, it was as soon over, and *Hippolito*'s Return from a Glorious *Campaign* put an end to every Malicious Tongue that wou'd now and then talk unluckily of *Zarah*: For as *Hippolito*'s Health was observ'd to be oftner drunk, even than *Albania*'s, *Zarah*'s was what the *Albiginois* in general wou'd never once so much as attempt to offer in Publick for fear of Affronts; for as every Body were lavish

of

of their Scandal againſt her, ſo every Body were as Cautious of praiſing her; for it was ſcarce poſſible to come into Company where the Fame of her Notorious Actions were not Trumpeted. For if P——n——s were withdrawn from Poor Widows of S———m, they were charitably deſign'd to be beſtow'd ou poor Workmens Widows that ſhou'd ſuffer by B——ing for her H———s. Nor wanted ſhe a *Salvo* to ſave, *Albania*'s Charity extending beyond the Proviſion for her own F——ly. If a Hundred Pound was given to Poor Petitioners, her H——s very well deſerv'd Fourſcore for the procuring of it.

Nor

Nor are theſe great Perquiſites beſtow'd, as ſome Malicious People wou'd ſuggeſt, for Private, but for Publick Ends; *Albigion* cou'd not be bleſt with *Peace* and *Moderation* at ſo cheap a Rate as the Price of a few dirty Acres are able to Purchaſe; no, no, there's more in it than a few dull-ſighted People are able to ſee through: And the vaſt Sums of Money ſome fancy *Zarah* hoards up, are all liberally diſpenc'd for Publick Uſes; nor does *Volpone* fail to join with the Pious Work, by aſſiſting her H——s in this great Deſign of uniting all the Hearts of Her M——s Liege People, when Penſions and Commiſſions are beſtow'd *Gratis*, for the Promotion of Peace and

Unity,

Unity, and Eccleſiaſtical Dignities given to Quarrelſome D——rs on Purpoſe to keep peaceable C——m——n quiet.

How many Thouſand Pounds are remitted Yearly for the Private Services out of *Zarah*'s E——r and *Volpone*'s T——ry? And all this to Support the Intereſt of *Albigion*, by keeping in ſuch a Juſt Miniſtry, as knows how to lay out Her M——s Revenues to the beſt Advantage: Not ſuch as wou'd cautiouſly ſave our M——y, which hang it is not worth keeping, and let *Zarah* and *Volpone* H——g or Dr——nd they care not which, ſo it be but either. Theſe are ſuch M——rs as the *Albigions* doat on; for they are Covetous People, and wou'd

ſave

ſave their M—y, tho' a Thouſand ſuch Excellent State T—s ſhou'd ſwing for it. And therefore they ſay *Obornius* and *Roſſenſis* were great Patriots, becauſe they lov'd their Countries M—y; and had more Regard to a Farm in *Albigion*, than to a Kingdom in *Utopia*. But we find Crowns are not purchas'd at ſuch eaſie Rates; for *Albigion* has paid more for a Title than ſome Kingdoms are worth.

And tho' *Zarah* Reigns without a K———m, ſhe's a happy Q——n, becauſe ſhe lives in Luxury and at Eaſe, without her Subjects Aſſiſtance, and in ſpight of their Teeth: She Taxes them not, yet they pay her Revenues againſt their Wills; ſhe is the Mirror of

her

her Sex, and the *Phœnix* of a Qu—n; for there never was one like her, nor never will be.

But now we muſt meet her, paying her Devoirs to *Albania*, who is preparing to paſs through *Lodunum* for Joy of *Hippolito*'s great Succeſs: Nor wanted *Zarah* an Opportunity to catch the Praiſes of the gaping Throng, without *Albania* and *Hippolito*; ſhe fails not to prepare her ſelf, and Beautiful *Solana* her Daughter, to attend Her M——y in this Proceſſion. For Vanity and Ambition were Two things ſhe wou'd not miſs, if to be had. And ſhe wou'd be ſure never to give *Albania* the Opportunity of gratifying any Body's Ambition beſides her own, nor let the

People

People doubt who had the beſt Pretenſions to *Albania*'s Favours, but that ſhe claim'd all as her undiſputed Right.

There was no Body came near the C—t with the Vanity to think of being her Rival, but rather the utmoſt of their Ambition was to be their Creature; or however, to obtain ſo much Favour that ſhe might not be their Enemy. This render'd her very happy and great, that ſhe had nothing to Fear, and ſcarce any thing more to Hope for, but to revenge her ſelf of her Enemies, which were too Numerous to give her the leaſt Encouragement of any Proſpect that Way. However, ſhe was reſolv'd not to die without making ſome Attempts, and

and accordingly as she succeeded in these, to go on.

The first that was to be made sensible of her Resentment was *Mulgarvius*, who had beforehand made himself indifferent to all that *Zarah* or the C—t cou'd pretend to Offer or *Tantalize* him withal: But they being ignorant of his Resolution, was resolved to Devise something that might be offer'd him very great, yet very unsuitable to him, so that he cou'd not in Honour accept of it, or refuse it in Disdain; accordingly *Volpone* was to wait on him with, as they thought, an unexpected Message; which was, that *Albania*, out of her Esteem for him, and the Sense she had of his great Abilities, was resolv'd to con-

fer

fer upon him the greateſt Dignity he cou'd enjoy in the Kingdom of *Albigion*, and was reſolved to free him from the Burden of that ſmaller Office he now enjoy'd, by conferring it on another leſs deſerving. But *Mulgarvius*, with a great deal of Wit peculiar to him, anſwer'd *Volpone* to his great Mortification, that he thank'd Her M——ty for her Superabundant Favours. And as to her great ——. he thank'd God he was bred a G——n, and had not his Fortune to make, but wou'd willingly wait till the Patriarchal Dignity ſhou'd fall, for which he thought himſelf as fitly qualified; if *Albania* wou'd be pleas'd to beſtow that on him he ſhou'd return his

Thanks,

Thanks, in the mean time he wou'd lay both his preſent Office and himſelf at her Feet, but did not think it proper to return it by the Meſſenger.

This nettled *Volpone*, who had the intended Affront he brought return'd upon himſelf; and the Relation of *Mulgarvius*, his bantering them with their kind Preſent, ſent *Zarah* Twenty Miles out of Town, where the Bells of St. *Albania* Rung ſuch a Peal in her Ears, ſhe wiſh'd her ſelf Deaf whenever ſhe came there as long as ſhe liv'd after; but this was but a *Prelude* to what ſucceeded in a little time.

The next Perſon ſhe diſcarded was an Old Patriot, and an Old Courtier; one that can

bite

Bite too as well as *Snarl* upon Occasion; and the Loss of his *Staff*, tho' he is Aged, will not so far disable him, but he may live to help a lame Dog over a Stile yet. He was formerly *Hippolito*'s Friend, and no Enemy to *Volpone*, but *Albigion* now is the Care of his Grey Hairs; and *Zarah*'s Anger will not provoke him to leave his Country to her Conduct, or his *Sheepfolds* to the Care of her *Shepherd*. He is grown too Powerful for the *Wolves*, and too Politick for the Devices of the *Fox*. The *Cambrian* is fitter for his Office, for he can fawn like a true C—t D—g, and lick the Feet of his M——s.

But now *Zarah*'s Thoughts was busily employ'd how to manage Affairs against the next

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great Sitting of the States of *Albigion*, for the preſent M——rs were very reſty, tho' to her great Satisfaction their Time was ſhort; however, they perplexed her with what they did, and ſhe cou'd not reſt quietly till *Albania* had ſent them into the Country like a Parcel of ill-manner'd B——, that had no more Reſpect for *Zarah*, when ſhe came in Competition with their C——s Intereſt, than if ſhe had been nothing but the Daughter of *Jeniſa*: Therefore ſhe was glad when ſhe ſaw their Backs turn'd, and an Opportunity was given her to revenge herſelf upon ſome of them who had been very *Malepert* to her, when they ſuppos'd the Power was lodg'd in their Hands. So that

ſhe

ſhe was reſolv'd now, not only to make them ſenſible who' it was they were to obey, but for the future to ſecure her ſelf under the Protection of a *Shade* of her own raiſing.

Therefore ſhe ſent Circular Letters with Secret Inſtructions to all thoſe Petty States and Provinces, who ſent *R*——— to *Lodunum*, to debate about the Grand Affairs of *Albigion*, that they ſhou'd E———t no D———, but ſuch and ſuch as were by her H———s nominated and appointed, as fit to anſwer the great Ends for which they were deſign'd, under the Penalties of her Diſpleaſure, and Forfeiture of her future Favours. Immediately upon theſe Intimations ſeveral States and P—— under her

H——— Direction made their Acknowledgments in very Submiſſive Terms, and acquainted her they wou'd incontinently obey her Inſtructions, and thought themſelves in Duty bound to thank her for the great Care ſhe took of *Albigion*, and for the particular Regard ſhe had to their ſeveral States, by the Munificent Bounties ſhe had caus'd to be diſtributed among them. Tho' ſome *immoderate* People were ſo unconſcionable as to be diſſatisfied with theſe things, and ſaid they were ſo far from reconciling Neighbours, that they ſet 'em all together by the Ears in the Country, for ſome got all the M——y, and they were for *Peace* and *Moderation*, others got

got none, and they were for *War*.

This made such Civil Dissentions, that *Albania* was obliged to make many new Gov——— of Provinces, purely to support M———, and keep Mens Mouths shut, as well as tie their Hands, that they might not oppose such Men as were well Principled in Political Religion, and Zealously Affected to her H—— present Government; but notwithstanding all this, the Stubborn People of *Albigion* were obstinately bent to oppose all her Tender Offers of G——. Few wou'd hearken to her kind Declarations, but some unthinking Heads, who were follow'd by a Train of giddy Mob, that hunger'd after the Flesh-pots of *Egypt*, but wou'd believe Mi-

racles no longer than while their Bellies were full: For they were like all other Multitudes, on their ſide who fed them, but withdraw the Hand that gives them Bread, and they are gone like a Flock of Wild-fowl.

It was now high time to make Uſe of all the Stratagems her Female Wit cou'd think of, for the Tide ſeem'd to roul ſtrong in ſpite of all the Efforts ſhe had made to ſtem it. *Zarah* had caus'd *Albania* to make a Progreſs into the Country, whereby ſhe might win the Hearts of her Subjects to her Obedience, and influence the moſt obſtinate by her milder Preſence. She Viſited the Eldeſt Daughter of *Urania* firſt, and ſhow'd her the Virtues ſhe

wou'd

wou'd have her imitate; who not only own'd the bright Example who propoſed 'em, but ſwore that Gratitude and Principle oblig'd them to purſue what their Sovereign had ſo kindly taught them. This Declaration animated *Zarah* ſo that ſhe cou'd doubt of no ill Conſequences after ſuch a Frank Acknowledgment: Therefore ſhe proceeded with *Albania* on their intended Expedition in all the height of Expectation, that every thing muſt now ſucceed according to her Wiſhes. But ſhe was no ſooner return'd to *Lodunum*, but the firſt thing ſhe met withal was a Publick Defiance againſt her from *Urania*'s Daughter telling her of all the Secret Deſigns ſhe had to undermine her: That ſhe had cover'd herſelf

ſelf with ſo thin a Veil, they had diſcover'd her Faſhionable Face, which rhey would never truſt again for her Sake; in ſhort, the whole Thread ſhe had ſpun in that Journey was quite unravell'd. She had left her Mask of M———n, behind her, which was pull'd in Peices, and ſent *Albigion* for a *Specimen* of her Religious Deſigns; but ſome burnt it, others cut it into *Atoms*, but the wiſeſt Sort preſerv'd it carefully in Spirits, as a Preſervative in future Times againſt M—n, P———y and H———ſy.

This Uſage ſeiz'd upon her Head ſo violently, it had like to have coſt her her Life; what to do in this Extremity ſhe cou'd not tell, for all the Nation had their Eyes upon her,

her, expecting how ſhe wou'd behave her ſelf in this Juncture; ſhe durſt not impart her Affliction to *Albania*, who had already enough to reflect on, for ſuffering her ſelf to be carry'd about for a Show, only to Countenance *Zarah*'s Deſigns. Beſides, this Peeviſh Daughter of the Muſes, had retorted *Albania*'s Viſit upon her, as a Treacherous In—— of hers to draw them into a Snare, and then leave them to ſhift for themſelves. She accus'd *Albania* of Fickleneſs, who had been applauded for unalterable Conſtancy, and began to Lampoon her, by comparing her to the *Wind*, which is always Subject to change; in ſhort, ſhe talk'd ſtrangely, even of *Albania* herſelf, upon the

Score of that Viſit which ſhe is ſtill uncharitably inclin'd to believe was deſign'd for no good to her; and as to *Zarah*, ſhe Deſpiſes her, ſhe Ridicules her, in all Company, and to all the Young Fellows that Converſe with her; and ſhe will never forgive her for uſing her *Danterius*, her *Bruſcus*, and all her Lovers, ſo ill.

The Noiſe of this Reſentment ſtruck *Zarah*'s Ears with an unuſual Surprize, ſhe was troubled at it extreamly, and ſome ſay ſigh'd for Sorrow, which ſhe was ſcarce ever known to do before, but her better Thoughts prevail'd upon her at that Time, and ſhe reproach'd herſelf for ſuch Baſe Deſigns. But it is a tickliſh Buſineſs for a Woman to repent of a Thing

that

that extreamly delights her; and she seldom charges herself home for a Fault so pleasing as Revenge. For these Reproaches of *Zarah* against her self were not altogether the most violent that might be expected from one that pretended to have a real Sense of a Fault; but rather from one that was disappointed, that her Designs cou'd not have their intended Effect, so that sometimes she wou'd be angry with herself for making so much ado. At last, being assaulted by Turns, on the one Side by Reason, and the other by Interest and Passion, she got up early in the Morning; without having been able to take any other Resolution, than to yield her self up; if possible, to be govern'd by

Vol-

Volpone, and be for the future meerly Paſſive in the Management of that Buſineſs which ſo long had ruin'd her Repoſe.

But alas, theſe were but vain Imaginations, and Dreams of a ſickly Mind; for ſhe cou'd no more be Govern'd by *Volpone*, than *Albania* cou'd Govern her; for meeting with him in the Gallery preſently after, ſhe reproach'd him with want of Politicks for her Miſcarriage in her late Progreſs. *My Lord*, ſaid ſhe, *you might have inform'd me better, than ſuffer me to be expoſed to a Thouſand Malicious Tongues, I had avoided, if your L——p had not given me a more agreeable Character of 'em. But they are an abuſive People, and throw all their Dirt*

upon

upon me; mean time you pass for a Saint, and let the Odium lye at my Door; either assert my Innocence to the World, or Albigion *shall know who B——— her Liberties, and who S——— her Freedom; who makes Religion a Politick Engine, and who* Albania *a Wooden Tool.*

Volpone was confounded, and stood Mute as a Statue, while *Zarah* triumph'd in her Passion, and sooth'd her Rage for a Time with such like Reflexions: At last he recover'd himself, but with a trembling Voice answer'd; *Madam*, said he, *the Sentiments I had of you were quite different from this outrageous Passion I find in you; pray tell me coolly what I have done that is not for your Interest and your Glory, for all the*

VVorld

World beſides is indifferent to me. How many Reflexions have I borne when I was conſtrain'd to oblige you? What Anxieties has it not caus'd in me ſince I was ſo near Ally'd to your H———? Yet you barbarouſly withdraw your Heart from me, whoſe Poſſeſſion ſweeten'd all my Sufferings, and you come now to ſacrifice me to your Diſcontent, which I am not knowingly guilty of, my Tenderneſs ſtill Intereſſes it ſelf for you and weak as I am, I wou'd willingly ſerve you, tho' at the Expence of my own Life.

Weak indeed, my Lord, ſaid Zarah, *when you cou'd not protect me from being inſulted in the Palace, but much weaker in your Head, when you could not foreſee the Conſequences of thoſe feign'd Complements and Flatteries we*

paid

paid Urania's *eldeſt Daughter, to have a Return of the vileſt kind imaginable, even to have our Favours deſpiſed, our Intrigues laugh'd at as empty Projects; Apprentice Boys hoot at me as I paſs the Streets, and throw me Pills to Purge the Spleen; ſo that unleſs* Volpone's *Thoughts be better, I ſhall have nothing for the future to Juſtifie my Conduct; but all thoſe who read the Hiſtory of my Life will look upon me as a Monſter.*

Madam, ſaid Volpone, *if I do not redeem your Honour I deſire to appear a Thouſand times more Criminal than you can reproach me; but Fortune will ſometimes play ſtrange Fantaſtick and Surpriſing Tricks. However, reſt aſſured, we have her in our Hands, and it is but turning*

the

the Wheel and ſhe will repreſent new Scenes of Pleaſure. This ſomething appeas'd *Zarah* for the preſent, and they ſedately conſulted of new Meaſures to bring about ſuch Deſigns as ſhe wanted to eſtabliſh, her Peace and Satisfaction, of Mind, by freſh acquirements of Riches and Honour.

In order to which, that her Intereſt might be firmer in *Albigion*, *Zarah* propoſes an Alliance wirh *Montecuto*, a Family of Riches, but guilty of as dark Deſigns as *Zarah*'s. The Goodneſs of *Albania*'s Diſpoſition daily receives freſh Trials from *Zarah*, for *Montecuto* now muſt be made one of the Firſt *Grandees* of *Albigion*, that not one Branch of *Zarah*'s Race fall to the Ground diſhonourable. This gave new

Life

Life to *Zarah*; ſhe was ſtrengthen'd now by a Man of her own Kidney; and it wou'd be hard to attack her of any ſide, who had fortified her Intereſt with Four of the ſtrongeſt Branches in *Albigion*. Young *Montecuto* and *Hippolita*, the moſt Charming of her Sex, were doom'd to *Conſolidate* this laſt and ſtrongeſt Alliance; every-body Pitied the Young Lover, becauſe he was happy as Beauty cou'd make him, but was inſenſible of Love, while the Fair *Hippolita* ſet all the World beſide on Fire.

And now it was time to think of Perpetuating *Zarah*'s Honour, and *Hippolito*'s Actions; for it is much queſtion'd which of the Two will be remember'd longeſt in *Albigion*; if we owe a great deal

deal to the first, there is no doubt but we are indebted to the last; and if the Noble Edifice, erected in Memory of that, continue as long as the remembrance of *Zarah*'s Name, it will last as long as the *Kingdom* of *Albigion* has a Law in it for a Female to sit upon the Throne. The Reflexion of this was undoubtedly no little Pleasure to *Zarah*, to think how Posterity will read her Stong, and she live Immortal in the remembrance of a Nation she has taken such Pains to serve, and who were so ungrateful to her, even while the Marks of her Favours were fresh in their Minds.

By this time the C——t and M——y were almost all modell'd to her Mind; *Volpone* redoubled

redoubled his Care and Diligence, to ſee that none were admitted unto *Albania*'s Service, that wou'd fly in the Face of their Benefactors: And now it was both his and *Zarah*'s great Concern to obſerve the Motion and Diſpoſition of the People of *Albigion*, leaſt the great Meeting of the States of that Country ſhould fall into Heats about the Management of Affairs, call them to Account, and overturn all that they had been doing for ſo many Years. To prevent this *Volpone* feigns himſelf a Man of Sport and Pleaſure, and *Zarah* to prevent *Albania* from thinking what was doing perſwades her to take her Diverſion along with *Volpone*; told her it wou'd be for her Health,

and

and the Satisfaction of her People to see her, and find her Easie under the Differences that some of her Subjects endeavour'd to make in *Albigion* upon the account of Religion, they pretended; but, said *Zarah*, those kind of Men have no R——n among them, nor is it that they are so concern'd about, but because your M—y has got a Wife, M—y about you, and they are no longer imploy'd. You may remember, *continued she*, they were as troublesome in *Rolando*'s Days, when he employ'd the greatest Statesmen of *Albigion*, that were different in their Opinions from them; how did they then torment the Good K—g, and caus'd him to Mu—— his Best Friends. They would play the

the ſame Game with your M—y, if you ſhou'd hearken again to the Counſels of *Mulgarvius*, and the reſt of that Party, whom you know are of turbulent, fiery, Tempers, nothing of the Meekneſs and Mo———n you ſo much recommend, and find practiſed by *Volpone*, *Sigillarius*, and the reſt of your preſent M———. You know, Madam, ſaid ſhe, it was for want of this Policy your Father was ſo unhappy, was hurried on to Ruin by *Solano*, who Counſell'd quite contrary to *Aurantio*, who had the Subtilty all his Reign to follow this Rule, as the only true State Maxim to be us'd in *Albigion*.

Albania, who was all Compliance to *Zarah*, yielded to her Perſwaſion, and every thing was

was prepared for her Expedition; ſhe was now equipp'd like another *Diana*, to ſeek her Pleaſure in the Woods and Plains, where oft *Rolando* had been happy before. For that Princes Crown had ſet like a Crown of Thorns upon his Head, had not that place Eas'd him ſometimes from Regal Cares, which were the moſt inſupportable to him of all Mankind; for tho' he had a Head as well qualified for Buſineſs as any Man Born, his Heart was all made up of Pleaſure, which was the Loadſtone govern'd all the Actions of his Life, which might have been as Glorious as the Riches of *Albigion*, and the entire Affection of the People cou'd make them; yet his Clemency, and

other

other Princely Qualities he was Maſter of, made him die the moſt lamented Monarch in the World.

But to return to *Albania*, we ſhall find her on the Plains of *Rolando*, which I ſhall ſo call for his Sake who loved them ſo well, perfect Miſtreſs of Rural Sports and Paſtimes. *Hunting*, *Hawking*, *Cocking*, *Horſe-Racing*, were all Princely Sports, and might poſſibly be made to reliſh with a Woman who was made up of Tenderneſs and Compaſſion; ſoft Female Virtues, which were by Degrees to be Harden'd, and made more Maſculine.

Albania cou'd not be made ſenſible of the Diverſion; but ſince ſhe found it ſerviceable to her Health, ſhe paſt away the

Time

Time with Chearfulneſs, and a great deal of Security of Mind. This pleas'd *Zarah* to ſee, for it anſwer'd her Purpoſe to find *Albania* eaſie, ſo that ſhe cou'd purſue her Game with the greateſt Satisfaction; for all ſhe had to do, in order to anſwer her Deſigns, was to draw *Albania* to *Cambrienſis*, to viſit *Urania*'s Second Daughter; tho' ſhe was ſenſible how the eldeſt had reſented the Favour ſhe beſtow'd on her, yet to ſhow the Temper ſhe publickly profeſs'd to *Albigion*, ſhe was eaſily prevail'd to go, where all the Entertainment and kind Reception was given her that the whole Family was capable of. Nothing was too coſtly, nothing too good, that they cou'd treat her with; and *Albania*

bania receiv'd their Expreſſions of Love with mutual Satisfaction.

This Proſperous Advance elevated *Zarah* and *Volpone* to the higheſt Pitch of Pleaſure that cou'd gratifie their Deſires. They found this Daughter of *Urania* in a Diſpoſition of Mind ſuitable to theirs, for ſhe was inclin'd, as they imagined, to thoſe Terms of M——n they had propoſed to eſtabliſh throughout *Albigion*. Nor did ſhe only receive *Albania* with ſuch Demonſtrations of Joy, but ſhe Careſs'd *Volpone*, *Somerius*, *Fuimus*, *Tonnerius* and *Devonius*, the very Perſon *Zarah* had pitch'd on to propoſe the Matter to her, for which this Grand Expedition was made, and upon which account ſhe pro-

cur'd Honours to be confer'd by *Albania* on ſeveral of the Family.

This ſo pleas'd the Miſtreſs, who is an Ambitious Lady, that ſhe told them all *Cambrienſis* was at their Service, and ſhe had Intereſt enough to engage that Place: This tickled their Ears, for this Declaration was what they wanted, and the Buſineſs for which they came there. *Fuimus* told her the Perſon they deſign'd to recommend was no leſs than a *Zarazian*, one who had Married *Zarah*'s Daughter, and was *Volpone*'s Son.

The *Academian* Lady ſoon gave her Conſent, and promis'd her utmoſt Aſſiſtance, told *Fuimus* ſhe was ſenſible of *Volpone*'s Qualifications, and that

he

he was the Man in the World she shou'd most willingly espouse, not only for his own Sake, but that he was the Son of such a Father, and ally'd to such a Mother; and she knew very well from their Two Interests her Family were to expect all that they cou'd wish for or desire in *Albigion*. Much more she said on this Subject to induce them to believe she was intirely theirs, and they need use no more Artifices to engage her further. So that now it was high time to haste to *Lodunum*, and consult what was further to be done in order to establish a firm and lasting Interest in the Senate of *Albigion*.

In order to which, *Foeski*, a Seditious *Zarazian*, and a virulent Pamphleteer, was ſet on Work, and encourag'd to abuſe all the Able Patriots of *Albigion*, Liſts of T—— were Publiſh'd and Diſpers'd abroad, to render them Odious to their Friends and Neighbours, but without the leaſt Effect, except near *Lodunum*, where they had the Opportunity of improving their Deſigns by more Ways than one. For M——y about this time circulated apace, Lands were bought in all the Provinces near that Populous City, to make more V—— for D——s that had been known before ſince *Albigion* was a Nation. *Bruſcus* and *Macaius* were ſtigmatiz'd by all the *Zarazians* for *Ringleaders* of

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a Party who were very Zealous for Prelatical R——n, which they ſaid brought Diſſention among the People, diſquieted the Repoſe of *Albania*'s Government, tho' ſhe was ſuppos'd to profeſs the ſame, having been Educated in thoſe Principles which *Zarah* and *Volpone* made her believe were deſtructive of that M——n ſhe had promis'd to maintain in *Albigion*.

Theſe Diſputes rais'd great Heats and Feuds everywhere, which were ſupported and carry'd on by Means of *Zarah*'s Partizans, who were very Numerous, tho' of little Account in reſpect of the others, who were the Chief of the Gentry and Eccleſiaſticks of *Albigion*; a Country where the Better Sort

were always faſt Friends to the C——. This diſquieted not the *Zarazians* a little, tho' they were more induſtrious in their Way abundantly than the others, who depended altogether on the Eſtabliſhment of the Laws of their Country for their Protection, while the *Zarazians* were finding out Ways to avoid the force of 'em, or if that fail'd, to procure Power enough to overthrow 'em.

Accordingly *Zarazian* Governours were ſet over the Provinces of *Exeſia*, *Canutia*, and many others, in order to bring the ſeveral Petty States to their Lure, and gain ſuch an Intereſt among them, as might ſecure themſelves and their Adherents, when the Grand

C—— of the Nation ſhou'd ſit: For they dreaded this Critical Time of erecting themſelves into a Body of Men, that for the future ſhou'd influence all Affairs in *Albigion*, and the the very People ſhou'd hereafter be known by no other Name than *Zarazians*. This very Thought pleas'd the Ambition of *Zarah*, and made her ſtick at no Difficulties to bring it about; and ſince ſhe had now both new Modell'd the C——t and C——y, ſhe thought there remain'd nothing to do, but ſet herſelf in the full enjoyment of her Labour; for every thing ſeem'd now to be out of the Reach of Malice, or the Power of Capricious Fortune, to prevent; for there was ſcarce a Borough in *Albi-*

gion into which her *Ferrets* had not crept, ſo that ſhe was almoſt confident there were no C——— left to undermine her.

However, we may ſee the greateſt Politicians ſometimes deceived: For what ſhe thought herſelf the moſt ſecure in firſt baulk'd her Expectations, even *Sancta Albania*, where all her E—— had play'd their Game, deſpis'd her Overture of Greatneſs, and laugh'd at her Threats, as the trifling Paſſion of a weak Woman, whom they knew too well to truſt in, and hated too much to be flatter'd by. Tho' ſhe wou'd have perſwaded ſome of them to believe ſhe was Liberal, who at that time taſted of her Bounty, the reſt knew ſhe was ———, and

therefore

therefore ſcorn'd her ill-timed Munificence. Like true Lovers of *Albigion*, they ſearch'd into the Bottom of the *Zarazian* P—, and found out the hidden Myſtery of Iniquity that has ſpread it ſelf ſo far on this Side the River *Tweed*. Nor was this the only Diſappointment her Illuſtrious H——— met withal, but that well laid Train at *Cambrienſis* was diſcover'd, and the Miners themſelves blown up. For when they expected with Aſſurance to hear of the promis'd Fidelity of the younger Daughter of *Urania*, ſhe prov'd as Errant a B— to 'em as the Eldeſt, and inſtead of chuſing a *Zarazian* of any Kind, ſent them a Red Hot — C——n, an *Albigenſis*, worſe,

worſe, if poſſible, to them than a *Bruſcus*.

This Action ſet the whole C—t in an Uproar, for they had all talk'd with Aſſurance of *Cambrienſis*, ſo that this was the moſt Conſiderable Diſappointment that cou'd have happen'd to the *Zarazians* at this Juncture; and it not only loſt their Intereſt there, but the Noiſe of it reach'd as far as the Lands-end; ſo that they durſt not venture a Second Defeat at *Exonia*, where they had had as large Promiſes as at *Cambrienſis*; nay, ſo far they had prevail'd there, as to engage her Prelate, who had been one of their Virulent Enemies, to Eſpouſe *Volpone*; yet when it came to the Trial they declin'd it, and left that State entirely

tirely to the Diſpoſal of Old *Somerius*, who hated a *Zarazian*, and us'd his utmoſt Power, which was very conſiderable, to throw out Men of their Principles everywhere in that Part of *Albigion*.

Zarah was in a Conſternation to find herſelf outwitted, and it put her to the Rack of Invention to find out Ways to prevent the further Progreſs of theſe Malicious Enemies, to her and her *Zarazians*, and accordingly ſhe reſolved to viſit *Roſſenſia*, one whom ſhe had but little Value for, and wou'd ne'er have taken notice on, but on ſuch an Occaſion: However, ſhe reſolv'd with chearful Smiles in her Countenance, being an Excellent Miſtreſs in the Art of Diſſembling, to feign

an extraordinary Friendſhip for her, and to uſe her utmoſt Power with her Husband, in an Affair of Importance that nearly concern'd her; *Madam*, anſwer'd *Roſſenſia*, who knew *Zarah* very well, *what can your H—s propoſe too difficult that I can deny you, if in my Power? For the Honour you do me in asking a Favour, is ſufficient for me to grant it.*

That is enough, ſaid *Zarah*, *to perſwade me you have a Friendſhip for me, which I cou'd heartily wiſh; but not to triſle time away in Complements, pray tell me, has my L—d ſecur'd his Intereſt in ——?* *You know Madam*, continued ſhe, *what I mean?* This Queſtion rais'd a great Suſpicion preſently in *Roſſenſia* that *Zarah* was come to

Pump

Pump her, which brought her into ſome Confuſion, which *Zarah* obſerving, preſently replies, *Madam, I find you heſitate, but let me aſſure you it will be his L—p's Fault if the Buſineſs be not done.* With that ſhe ſhew'd a pretended Letter from the Governour of ——— to her H———s, written to that Purpoſe, at the Requeſt of the State of ——, and ſaid the Inhabitants had ſuch a Reſpect for her Husband, that there were no Doubt but his Affair wou'd take Effect. This Sham Letter pleas'd *Roſſenſia* wonderfully, and now took off all Jealouſies ſhe had entertain'd of her, tho' ſhe cou'd not but remain in Surprize at this ſudden and unexpected Kindneſs of *Zarah*'s.

But not being enough upon her Guard, together with *Zarah's* Subtle Inſinuations, ſhe diſcover'd the whole Buſineſs of her Husband, what Intereſt he had in ——, and who were the Chief Men that oppos'd him: She was ſecretly pleas'd to hear this; but the more to cover her Treachery, told her thoſe very Men were particularly obliged to her, and if ſhe wou'd engage her Huſband to write Letters after ſuch and ſuch a Manner, ſhe wou'd find out Ways to make them take Effect; adding, that that State was very Neceſſitous, and the only Way to Eſtabliſh my L—d's Intereſt was by B——s convey'd the Right Way, and by a *Zarazian* Hand, which was

was the Sureſt Way to ſucceed.

Roſſenſia was prevail'd upon to take her Advice, and directly went to her Husband, who Haſtily, and without further Conſideration, yielded to his Wife's Solicitation, and diſpatch'd Letters according to *Zarah*'s Deſires, which ſhe ſoon ſends away, with Secret Inſtructions to expoſe them publickly abroad, and ſo ruin the Intereſt of *R*——, in order to bring in *Coragio*, a M——n of hers, and S——y to *Hippolito*. This piece of V——y ſucceeded even beyond her Expectations, for there happen'd to be a Particular Sort of *Zarazians* who eſpous'd the Cauſe, and reſented *R*—— with a great deal of Indignation. They

caus'd his Letters to be expos'd on the Town Crofs, and cry'd up *Zarah* for a great Friend to *Albigion*, in detecting this piece of V——y ſhe had been the Inventer of. On the other Side, ſome of *Zarah*'s private Conſpiracies were diſcover'd, and made as publick here as they had been before at *Sancta Albania*, where Letters of the fouleſt Deſigns were expos'd, and the Character known to be that of her H——s's own Hand-writing.

But all theſe things, ſome ſay, proceeded from a Zealous Deſire ſhe had to promote Religion, which was ſinking to nothing in *Albigion*; and unleſs it was followed with Fervency, People wou'd not diſtinguiſh

True

True Zeal from Hypocriſie, but take the firſt for a Temptation of the Devil, and the laſt a pernicious Deſign to ruin all Mankind, under the Helliſh Mask of M——n.

It is true indeed, we may be tempted to our Perdition under a fair and falſe Appearance of Religion, which commonly proceeds from the Diſcontentments of Life, or from ſome Capricio or Fancy of the Brain: And therefore it is very neceſſary to ſound to the bottom of Mens Hearts, to know whether the Religion they profeſs ſpring from pure Principles, or be polluted with ſenſual Appetites? Whether Ambition be not the moſt prevalent, either to forward or hinder it; and that ſince Ho-

nour is ſo tempting, and we have no other Hopes to attain it, whether we do not aſpire to it by Means of Religion? In ſhort, there is an infinity of falſe and treacherous Motives, which bring Men to Perdition inſtead of Religion.

How many are they who affect it from a Principle of Vanity and Preſumption, and do all they do out of Deſign and Vain-glory? Some pretend to it in order to be Stateſmen, and make a Myſtery of all Things, and by a certain counterfeit and ſtudied Art labour to paſs for great Men; others diſpoſe of themſelves by Intereſt, and inſinuate with the Multitude to be protected by them, that ſo they may exact upon the World: All theſe

People

People make Religion the higheſt Point of their Politicks; for by this Pretence they Reign imperiouſly over many, and captivate the obſtinate and unthinking Vulgar, who are charm'd with their promiſing outſide, and never enquire farther, but let ſuch Men diſpoſe of them at their Pleaſure.

And it is a common Trick with them who ſtudy to ſooth and gull the World with Specious Artifices, to make frequent Uſe of Sentences in pleaſant Matters, and in grave Ones of Religion, which is as ſo many Precious Stones to embelliſh their Deſigns, and dreſs up their Secret Myſteries in ſuch a pleaſant Garb, as may excite the Minds of Men to Curioſity.

But to return to *Zarah*, we ſhall find her pluming herſelf under her treacherous Conqueſt over poor *Roſſenſia*, and glorying ſhe cou'd act her Revenge upon any of the Enemies of the Family of *Zarah*. This animated her ſo, ſhe immediately diſpatch'd her E——s to *Woodſtockia*, where a *Zarazian* was oppos'd by *Walterius*, who till then had always had the Favour of that *State*; nor had he been rejected now, but by a Secret Stratagem of *Zarah*'s. For *Cadogonius*'s Intereſt lay entirely upon her Management, which was more cloſe and Secret, tho' not of half that Importance as that of *Cambricenſis*. And this was owing in a great Meaſure more to the quick Thought of *Zarah*'s F——

V——,

V——, than to her own Contrivance; and the whole Scheme of this Affair laid by *Volpone*, *Fuimus*, *Somerius*, and the reſt of the *Zarazian* Conſpirators; for they were all in the Intereſt of *Zarah*, to deſtroy the F——m of all the States and Provinces of *Albigion*. The People were deduced to ſuch a Condition, that they were no longer their own Maſter, but were turn'd this Way, and that Way, as they were mov'd by their Governours and Superiours, which were now almoſt all *Zarazians* throughout the Kingdom of *Albigion*.

This made the poor Wretches complain heavily, that they were toſs'd to and fro like Waves by the Tempeſtuous Winds, and were not at liber-

ty to do what they had a mind. They were compell'd to divide their Lands without Purchaſe, and give their V——— without Pay. They were hurry'd from their Houſes in the Night, nor ſuffer'd to return Home when they ſaw the Day. They were taught to Swear againſt their Friends, for thoſe they knew to be their greateſt Enemies.

Here they ſaw to their Sorrow Men of Vicious and Corrupt Lives and Converſations, without one good Action to recommend them, rais'd in a Trice from Slaves, to be Governours of Provinces, from Poor, to be Rich and Powerful, from Baſe and Unknown, to be Noble, and Chief of the State; honour'd for their Me-

rit, that is to ſay, their V——y, becauſe they were *Zarazians*, and *Zarah* got by their Service. There was no ſuch thing as frowning or grumbling for the reſt of the *Albiginois*, if they expected to obtain any thing they deſired; in ſhort, they were for Exerciſing a kind of Arbitrary and Deſpotick Government againſt all that were not *Zarazians*, or at leaſt ſomething of their Kidney, who baniſh all the Signs of Generoſity and Publick Spirits, and encourage little beſide *Vanity*, *Fraud* and *Cheatery*, which runs in the very Blood of the meaner Sort of the *Zarazians*, and is to be found too exuberant in thoſe of higher Rank. For *Self intereſt* and C——th Deſigns

ſigns ſpring from their Pedigrees, as Herbs from Plants.

This is too manifeſt in the Character of *Artonio*, the vileſt *Zarazian* in *Albigion*, and one who is univerſally hated, even by his own Party. Who is ſo far from being rul'd by Reaſon, that he ſuffers himſelf to be carried away by every little Perſwaſion of Intereſt; for whoſe Sake he certainly precipitates himſelf upon ſome cholerick Action, the Event whereof ſullies his Honour with the darkeſt Stains of Infamy and Diſgrace; but that he values no more than he does Religion, which he obſerves as little as he does paying his Debts. But Generous Spirits exerciſe more Humanity towards them who have oblig'd them, than they whom

whom they oblige, as we may ſee by Experience practis'd in the Triumphs of Great Men. All the World knows it is an Heroick Action not to be tranſported by our Paſſions; and tho' they may chance to aſſault our Wills, yet that Judgment that governs 'em will make us reliſh our Reaſons. In ſhort, the ill Life and Converſation of this *Zarazian* has obſcur'd all the Great Achievements of his Politicks.

Nor had *Zarah* her ſelf been leſs admired for her Policy than ſhe is now for her if ſhe had truly followed that Policy which is the only and true Means to govern well, which every Day produces various Changes in Affairs; wherein the Reaſons of State are ſo

numerous and ſo ambiguous, as to hold the moſt Subtle Miniſters in ſuſpence, and wherein there are ſo many nice and abſtracted Precepts, that unleſs Judgment or Experience give the Art to apply them, the Event thereof cannot but be pernicious or fruitleſs. For Policy compoſes the Union of Men; and we ſhould not know how we lived if we were not taught; ſo that it is not only neceſſary for the Conduct of States, but uſeful alſo in ſuch private Converſations as ours; and that it is exerciſed upon ſenſible and particular Objects, tho' it be of a great Extent, and of an eminent and ſuperlative Original.

Society

Society is a Character which Nature has imprinted upon Man, by a certain Inſtinct, or natural Law, which gives him an Internal Motion or Propenſity to it, and this Motion is afterwards ſeconded by the Imitation of external things, which are the Conveniences and Commerce of this Life.

The Object of Policy took its Principle from particular Societies, and ſo by degrees, in Progreſs of Time, riſe from ſmall ones, to great ones. The Firſt Man, and the Firſt Woman, made the Firſt Society in the World; and afterwards their Families and Poſterities egrandiz'd it ſo much, that of One particular Society were made many; and ſo it neceſſarily follow'd, that what was

proper to one Generation only, being augmented by different Families, muſt grow to be variouſly divided; that *Houſes*, *Boroughs*, *Forts*, *Towns*, and whole Provinces, muſt be Built for Lodging and Habitation, and Convoys appointed for the Security of Commerce, and that all muſt be deducted in fine into Kingdoms and Commonwealths, and other Forms of Government, that ſo by the Direction of one or more, Order and Policy might be kept in Communions, which were made by Mankind, by its Safety and Conſervations; and conſequently that whatever might prove hurtful, either to the Publick or Private Intereſt, might be removed and avoided: This Order hath always been accounted

counted ſomething more than of bare Humane Invention; and tho' it may look as if the Body acted principally therein, and that Care, Vigilancy and Labour wrought moſt in it, yet it ſeems to derive its Origine from a higher Source.

For even Irrational Creatures, without Art and Study, are as capable of it as we, and ſeem to put this of Policy in Practice, to teach us how to guide our ſelves in the Management of States, and the direction of Nations. For *Bees* are a perfect Example of Policy, and that Policy of theirs is ſo well ranged, and ſo firmly eſtabliſh'd in their *Swarms*, which are their Communities, that we muſt abſolutely conceive there is

ſomething more than Natural Inſtinct given to them, for the Inſtruction of our Government, in regard they are in the Conduct of theſe Creatures ſuch certain Maxims, and ſo well regulated an Order.

So that it has been a Diſpute, whether Men ought not to follow the natural Reaſons of thoſe Creatures which are their Authors, and which we find to be as Potent as Juſt. And it has been judiciouſly decided, that Religion is the Principle and Foundation of Policy; and that thoſe States are always in Danger and Diſorder in which it is not firmly ſettled: So that the *Bees*, which never go out of their Hives, according to Tradition, without firſt croſſing their Legs,

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and kiſſing them, by an Inſtinct as it were of Religion, ſhew us what we ought to do before we undertake any Buſineſs; and we ought of Neceſſity to Worſhip aright before we can know how to govern ſo.

But this was a Doctrine *Zarah* and her *Zarazians* was ſo far from practiſing, that they were rather for aboliſhing natural Laws of Government, and inſtituting new ones of their own, according to their Modern Scheme of Policy, and far-fetch'd Notions of Government, quite different from any yet Inſtituted by Divine or Humane Right before. For the *Bees* teach us that Men ought to employ themſelves not meerly for their own Intereſt, but their Friends; Labour for

their Country, and be Industrious for the Good and Peace of the Common-wealth; and that they ought to be content with what they have, without coveting what belongs to others, as they are with their *Hives*, without Trouble or Discord, and without taking or seizing upon those of their Neighbours.

'Tis the Character of an Honest Politician, to contribute as much as he possibly can in order to the general Content of the World; he must always avoid saying or doing any thing which may in any ways disoblige. An unbounded and affronting Raillery is an ill Talent: Men of this Temper spare not their Friends or themselves; I say that of unlimited Raillery, for

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nice Raillery is what's moſt agreeable in Converſation; but it muſt be uſed with the greateſt Circumſpection imaginable; juſt as a *Ragout* is ſpoil'd by overſeaſoning, ſo by railing too ſharply we render our ſelves offenſive and odious to Company.

Thoſe who affect to rail, ought to have a nice Manner of doing it, which may pleaſe reaſonable People; and 'tis even ſo by thoſe who uſe themſelves to Flattery: For thoſe who flatter groſly, without Choice or Diſtinction, pleaſe but few Perſons. But as moſt Men are blinded by their Vanity, and the Complaiſance they have for their own Merit they don't perceive they are flatter'd, but let us underſtand by their Satif-

faction that what was ſaid obliged them, and they very much approved it, and that it gave them an extraordinary Pleaſure; for vain Perſons cannot forbear ſhewing the ridiculouſneſs of their Vanity.

But thoſe who countenance it by falſe Adulations, deſerv'd to be puniſh'd as Poiſoners of Society; for a true Complaiſance ought to be free equally from Flattery and Incivility; the endeavouring to pleaſe Politeneſs and Civility are the Eſſential Parts of a Courtier, who aims at being eſteem'd above others, and to have generally the Approbation of a Court; but I cannot excuſe their cringing Embraces, baſe flatteries, and vain Offers of Service, with which they deceive thoſe who court them; too

too mean in giving way to ſuch Conditions.

It is dangerous for Courtiers to be too familiar, for it degrades them, and makes them become leſs eſteem'd, by loſing a certain kind of Dignity which a grave and ſerious Air affords. But notwithſtanding, Men of that Rank ought not to affect a Grave Air, for too dull and ſerious an Aſpect which continues long is very tireſome, and the greateſt Men ought ſometimes to unveil themſelves, and act according to their Natures; for 'tis not always a *Propos* to be diſguis'd under an affected Form.

Some Men have a perfect Fund of ill Humour, capable of diſgufting all the Joys of the World; they are pleas'd with

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the dulneſs of their Melancholy, and they ſeem to find a Diverſion in creating Strife and Diviſion every where, and ſetting the beſt of Friends together by the Ears. They have always ſomething quarrelſome to tell of one another: And when they are at Difference they are pleas'd with the Sport, and hug themſelves for it in Secret.

Others leſs hurtful, but every whit as tireſome, groan continually under their Misfortunes, and complain ſeverely of their Deſtiny; let the Year be never ſo Fruitful or ſo Barren, let there be either War or Peace, the Taxes doubled or leſſen'd, 'tis nevertheleſs to them an everlaſting Fund of Lamentation.

It signifies little to have Wit, Sense, or such like Qualities we must likewise have Proofs of a certain Character which encourages us, and makes our Merits valued. Without all that, Persons that have no Merit nor Wit, who neither labour for the Church nor State, but have good Patrons, will undo Persons of the greatest Merit, and will always exceed Men in their Dispensation of Favours. A Man that for his Share has Wit and Sense, is not fit to rival a Man that is very Rich, and very Foolish; 'tis but a Jest to compare them, and to prefer them first; for Women, who naturally love Interest, generally judge in Behalf of Riches.

A Rich and Liberal Lover, tho' never ſo great a Fool, is generally preferr'd before a Plain Honeſt Man, who is not in a Condition to ſupply their fooliſh Expences; they have baniſh'd from their Companies thoſe Eternal Lovers, who ſpend their whole Life in ſaying Soft Things to them, and make no Expences but of Tenderneſs, they deſire ſomething more Real and Solid. I know no Reaſon why the Women ſhou'd be reproach'd with being *Mercenary* and *Coquettiſh*, 'tis a Piece of Injuſtice done them. I think they ſhou'd be ſo, and at all things make uſe of their Charms to pleaſe Men; we may find the ſame Deſires in both Sexes.

I can by by no means approve of thoſe Vapouriſh Ladies who pretend to be melancholly when they are out of Humour, ſince the Nature of the Sex obliges Women to be pleaſant; and they ought never to diſengage themſelves from that, if they have a Mind to have the Men eſteem them. They abuſe themſelves when they believe the Glory of a Woman conſiſts in the Character of her Beauty; no, for it is rather comprehended in the Regularity of her Conduct. A nice Behaviour much becomes a Woman of Faſhion, who ought not to permit any Emancipation or Preſcription of Rules, but thoſe which good Senſe teaches.

I do not pretend to mean by this that they ought to live

like *Savages*, nor look on Men as *Seducers*, but that they may with Civility receive the Praiſes they give them, and the Homage which they pay to their Merit.

Thoſe Women that take a Fancy to Severity are generally too formal, and the Affectation of Wit which they ſhew when their Conduct is not entirely regular, renders them much more deſpiſeable; we ſhou'd have much more Charity for them if they did not ſo abſolutely ſet up for *Nuns*; their *Reputation* does not depend on the Capricious Notions of Men, and the Applauſes they give them, but on their *Merit* and *Virtue*.

The Diſtaſte of ſome fiery proud Women is not of that Service that they imagine, nor

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does it cauſe them to be the more reſpected. Thoſe hot kind of Ladies have an odd Sort of Dulneſs in their Faces, and an Impreſſion of ill Humour, which deprives them of One Part of their Charms, by leſſening their Enjoyment; but when they have taken upon them this Humour of Peeviſhneſs they obſtinately maintain it, and make good the Honour of their Characters.

There are ſome who have that Opinion of their Wit and Merit, that their Preſumption carries them to think themſelves above all the World. They have Notions which ſeduce them when any thing is to be decided, and the Precipitation with which they are carried away, hinders them from finding

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the Circumſtances of any Subject. 'Tis thoſe Opinions ſpoil them, and make them always take the wrong Side, and falſe Meaſures, when they are to do any thing that is difficult or uncertain: And when they have given themſelves the liberty to think, their Obſtinacy hardens them againſt all the Remonſtrances that may be given them. They ſay and do a Hundred extravagant things to ſupport them in this Humour; like thoſe who diſpute on the wrong Side, they do it with all the Fire imaginable, for fear of being contradicted: But they care not whether what they ſay be ſupportable or no; they think the Point of Honour is not to yield; and fancy they have received the greateſt Affront that

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is possible, if they are obliged by substantial Reasons to subscribe to the Truth. That is the Effect of a ridiculous Positiveness and foolish Pride.

But how hard is it to find a solid Judgment in Women, or indeed to know what it is; either in Men or Women good Judgment extends it self infinitely large, and supposes very extraordinary Qualities; it enters into and makes every thing seasonable, but it is not so common as 'tis thought to be; many People flatter themselves with having it most exquisitely nice, altho' they only follow their own foolish and capricious Notions. 'Tis almost impossible to reform those that are possess'd with that Evil, because of the natural Aversion some

Men

Men have of being convinced; those who really have Judgment suffer themselves to be less biass'd by their own Opinions, and are not known to boast so much of their Talent as those that want it. Persons that are beautiful easily perceive what is fine in themselves, but then they fancy that others may be more agreeable.

An Excellent Artist is not like the *Phœnix*, for he does Justice to the Merits of others; for Judgment governs our Thoughts and *Ideas*, and makes us know our selves to be what we are. Those who follow their Inclinations have little or no Judgment, because in a great Measure they resemble the *Beasts*, that act only by Instinct and Nature: Whereas good Judgment

ment is the Effect of a true and perfect Reason, which always takes the right side in things doubtful or uncertain. After all this, the rareneſs of it is not to be wonder'd at, ſince ſo many People who think they have it, flatter themſelves with very little Reaſon.

But they cannot long impoſe upon the Publick, for their Weakneſs and ill Judgment is ſoon diſcover'd when they meddle either with judging or deciding Controverſies: But what appears more troubleſome and ridiculous is, that they wou'd have Men applaud and agree with them in their Notions, how inconſiſtent ſoever. Nevertheleſs different Opinions claim ſome Grains of Allowance, and ought not to be confin'd under the narrow

narrow Limits and Circumſpection of common Judgment, for every Man is not endowed with a penetrating *Genius*; therefore they ought not to condemn other Mens Opinions, becauſe they are contrary to their own; but before they condemn them, their Reaſons for judging as they do ought to be conſider'd, and after all thoſe Precautions they may be miſtaken. For in moſt Affairs there are generally many oppoſite Circumſtances, which quite alter the Caſe: 'Twou'd then be very raſh to cenſure thoſe who are not of the ſame *Opinion* with themſelves; for 'tis expoſing their own want of Judgment to condemn others.

It

It may be taken for a general Rule, that there are few but have Judgment in one thing or another; the meaneſt Sort of People, who have no Education, and ſeem very dull, argue right in their own Caſes, and their Arguments appear then more refin'd when they are for their own Intereſt. The moſt Eſſential Thing is for a Man to know his own Excellency, and to confine himſelf within his proper Sphere, without deſiring to go beyond his Bounds: But ſuppoſe it never ſo unpleaſant, capricious or falſe, Men always deſire to diſpute about things much above their Capacities.

There is a certain Self-conceit or Opinion that enters into the Actions of all Men, and that's

that's the Reaſon they are determined for one thing rather than another; ſome have a fancy for Muſick and Symphony, others of a more lively Temper love ſomething tumultuous, and the noiſe of Drums and Trumpets pleaſe them. If it was to be enquired why ſo many People undertake Employs which ſeem ſo laborious, there can be no other Reaſon aſſign'd, but that 'tis according to their Fancy, for otherwiſe they might accept of more pleaſant Profeſſions; but we can never better diſpoſe of our ſelves than after our own Inclinations, for we generally ſucceed in what we do with Pleaſure.

'Tis *Fancy* that embeliſhes every thing; even the Products of Nature and Inventions of

Art

Art cannot be thought excellent unleſs they be pleaſing; 'tis that which makes *Paintings* and *Muſick* of different Kinds have different Admirers; it appears in the meaneſt things; many Women in *Stuffs*, by reaſon of their dreſſing with an Air, make a better Figure than others who are dreſs'd in the richeſt Cloaths, and have not a good *Fancy*. And tho' it be a difficult Matter to determine wherein this conſiſts, yet we muſt not believe it to be barely *Whim* and *Imagination*, but ſomething that is Real; 'tis a Sort of ſomething which pleaſes us, and we cannot exactly expreſs it. 'Tis by Virtue of this we judge of *Dreſs*, *Building*, &c. It ſerves as for

a Guide, and conducts us every-where.

Nature is a kind of Harmony, which by a ſtrange Collection of Things, makes an Impreſſion on our Senſes and our Reaſon. This is the Origine of all our Paſſions, which is excited by the Agreement we find between our Senſes and their Objects; 'tis that Likeneſs and Sympathy which gives us the Pleaſure of our Senſes; Sympathy conſiſts in the Diſpoſition of one Object in favour of another. A certain Collection which agrees with the Organ of Hearing, excites in us the Pleaſure which cauſes the Harmony, and the well Underſtanding of Muſick. In like manner, as the Nice Mixture in Sauces cauſes a certain Reliſh, which by

by its Delicacy pleaſes all Perſons of a good Taſte.

But as the organs in moſt Men are differently diſpos'd, for that reaſon the Object works differently on their Senſes; 'tis that is the Cauſe of the Natural Averſions which are obſervable in ſome Perſons that can neither ſuffer the Sight nor Approach of ſome Objects: We may from the ſame Reaſons concede to different Opinions, ſince the ſame Objects excite different Senſations, according to the Diſpoſitions of the Fibres; and that which Pleaſes the Palate of one, cauſes a great Diſtaſte in another.

'Tis not Taſting alone that cauſes ſuch different Impreſſions on our Organs, 'tis very pro-

bable that other Objects may have the same Effect. Perhaps what seems to one *Black*, may seem to another of a different Colour; in short, we cannot absolutely determine whether or no the Eyes are not like Glasses differently cut, which after that manner changes the Colours of Objects.

There are Men of Sense as well as Wit, who think differently of every thing. Those who are endow'd with a fine and delicate manner of discerning, conceive those things under nice *Ideas* to be the same as they really are: *Wits* of a narrower Size generally conceive but the superficial Part of Objects. Subtle *Wits* define too much, and evaporate all their Conceptions into vain Imaginations.

tions. The difference which is obſervable in theſe ariſes from the Diſpoſition of the Organs Diverſity of the Fibres of the Brain, and the Subſtance wherewith it is fill'd. It is not to be doubted but that theſe things, altho' purely material, contribute to the Beauty and Nicety of Wit, becauſe the Soul, when it is enclos'd in the Body, depends on the Organs, and thoſe, when well diſpos'd, are of much greater Aid to it in the performance of its Duty. Suppoſe a Painter be never ſo expert, he muſt have a Pencil for his Purpoſe when he has aim'd to draw fine and delicate Lines.

According to the Maxims of this Philoſophy it is eaſie to judge why Perſons of Quality

have generally more Penetration, Vivacity and Spirit, than thoſe of a meaner Rank: For tho' good Education infinitely contributes to the Poliſhing and Perfecting of Wit, yet 'tis certain that good Nouriſhment, and the Juice of Nice Meats, which mixes with the Blood, and other Humours of the Body, ſubtilizes them, and renders them more proper for the Functions of Nature. 'Tis perhaps for this Reaſon that Men of Spirit have an odd Fire and Livelineſs in their Eyes, which diſtinguiſhes them from other Perſons, whoſe Stupidity is perceiv'd by their dull and languiſhing Eyes.

The little Care taken in forming the Reaſons of ſome Men, is the Cauſe why they produce ſo little in their Actions; Chil-

dren

dren have Masters to teach them to *Dance* and *Sing*, *&c.* but few or none to form their Minds, and teach them good Sense; that is not thought of; which is therefore the only Reason why most Men are more govern'd by *Caprice* and Fancy, than by the Guide of their Reason, which is not sufficiently cultivated. It must be observ'd too, that few Men are willing to curb their Passions, for all their Applications are only to find out Means to justifie them, and when they are forc'd to own themselves to be in the wrong, they answer they cannot help it.

'Tis not enough for Men to know in what Condition they are, and their Duty in that State, if they have but Cou-

rage to maintain it; but they generally flatter themſelves that the World has nothing to reproach them with, tho' groſs Faults expoſe them with Juſtice to the Publick Cenſure; Vanity and Preſumption hinders them from knowing themſelves, and doing themſelves Juſtice, becauſe they have not the true diſcernment they ought to have. Mens Self-conceit ſuggeſt to them a Thouſand falſe Maxims to render their Faults unperceivable to themſelves.

'Twou'd without doubt be a very Bold Enterprize to endeavour the —— of ſome Men; for to do it the whole Courſe of their Lives ought to be chang'd: This Project is as difficult as that of endeavouring to change the Features of their

Faces.

Faces. But as there are Ways to whiten, and take all Blemiſhes from the Face, ſo perhaps there may be Means found out of reforming their Manners: Converſation, or Knowing the World, is of the greateſt Importance to it; for People Bred at Court, tho' they are not always of the moſt ſublime Genius, yet they judge indifferently well on moſt Subjects, and ſpeak reaſonably of every thing. Men, tho' but of indifferent Senſe, who uſe good Converſation, appear much more Polite than thoſe of readier Wit unus'd to Company. Thoſe who are not accuſtom'd to good Manners, know no better than to diſcourſe of things out of the Way, which happen not in the Converſation of the World, for

they have no Knowledge of what is truly agreeable: Their Language is meer Jargon, and they appear awkward in the Company and Converſation of Polite People, and for want of ſtudying the Gift of Pleaſing, they become Noiſie and Troubleſome.

The Knowledge which teaches Men to live among People of Civility and Manners is certainly preferrable to any other; for tho' the Precepts are but few, the Practice of them are very difficult, and require more Care than every Body will take: A Man muſt learn to diſſemble his diſlike of every thing under the Diſguiſe of good Humour and Pleaſantry. Knowing how to Converſe, is knowing how to Oblige; in fine, it

is

is the beſt Method of pleaſing, the ſhorteſt Way of gaining the Good-will of every Body. Men ought to faſhion themſelves to the Humours and Opinions of their Friends. If they are Fickle and Capricious, the others ought to be ſo too, and endeavour to comply with them in their Fancies.

Vain Perſons are eaſily perſwaded that they have ſome extraordinary Qualifications, whereby they outdo all their Rivals; their Folly is to Eſteem none but themſelves, and to have a Diſregard for the reſt of Mankind. If they are oblig'd to allow that they have committed ſome Faults, they are ſoon reconciled to themſelves again, becauſe they think they are made up by ſome other

rare

rare Perfections they are Masters of. 'Tis thus that the love of themselves seduces them. But if they indulge themselves much, they treat other Men with the more Severity, and pardon nothing they find amiss in them; for they have a Secret Pleasure in Backbiting those whose Personal Merit surmounts theirs.

But it is high time, after this long Digression, to return to our Story again, where we shall find *Hippolito* acting the most Generous thing, aud *Zarah* the most Niggardly Unfriendly Part in the World. A certain Old Acquaintance, both of *Hippolito* and hers, making Application to her Highness amidst the rest of Suitors that waited on her for Preferment, got, after much Solicitation, the Promise of her

Favour,

Favour, if he wou'd bring her Information of a Vacancy proper to be bestow'd on him: He waited some time with Patience, as those that attend on Courts must do, at last he heard of something which he thought was for his Purpose, tho' it was with much Diligence he got the first Intelligence; he was satisfied for all the Pains he had taken, because he was sure his Intereſt was good, and rely'd entirely on it; accordingly he went, and told *Zarah* he had got Information of something whereby she might make his Fortune for ever, and he was confident he was come early enough, before it cou'd possibly be dispos'd of. *Zarah* seem'd pleas'd at this Relation,

and

and told him ſhe was glad he found out ſuch a Thing that ſhe cou'd ſerve him in, and therefore promis'd him if he wou'd attend on her next Day ſhe wou'd give him an Anſwer, which ſhe did not queſtion but wou'd be to his Satisfaction: Away went our New Courtier with full Expectations of being put in Poſſeſſion of his Deſires when he came again; he cou'd not forbear ſmiling to himſelf to think of the Old Proverb, *That a Friend at Court was as good as Gold in a Man's Pocket.* But it wou'd have mov'd a Stoick to ſome extravagant Action to have been diſappointed after that manner this fancied Favourite was.

The

The next Morning, according to Appointment, he waited at *Zarah*'s Apartment, with Pleasure in his Looks, and Satisfaction in his Mind, when in a short time her H——ſs came to him, and thus accoſted him. *I am heartily ſorry, Sir, you have given your ſelf ſo much Trouble to enquire after that Buſineſs you were telling me of, for it was Yeſterday diſpos'd of before I had Notice to make Application for it.* Theſe Words ſtruck the Poor Gentleman all on Heaps, that he had not one Word to ſay for himſelf; which *Zarah* perceiving, and knowing what a Treacherous Trick ſhe had play'd him, in diſpoſing of that ſhe had actually promis'd him, and which he had inform'd her of

first; nay, which she was in Gratitude for former Services oblig'd to do for him, she proceeded thus, *Sir, you seem concern'd, but I promise you I will do whatever lyes in my Power to serve you. The Gentleman that has obtain'd this Preferment I believe is Needy, and I fancy I cou'd prevail upon him to resign it if you will give Five Thousand Florins, which it is very well worth.* Madam, said he, *I am not worth One Florin in the World, and I can assure you if I had been worth Five Thousand, your Highness shou'd have been the last Person in the World I wou'd have ask'd a Favour of.*

Zarah was something concern'd at his Resentment, for fear of Stories, and therefore en-

endeavour'd to ſoften him as well as ſhe cou'd, for Five Thouſand *Florins* was dearer to her than the beſt Friend that had ſpent his Fortune in her Service. However, ſhe pacify'd him for the preſent, and ſent him Home with Aſſurance, as ſhe thought, of her future Favours, which he ſeemingly ſhow'd a belief of; but went away with the utmoſt Reſentment in his Breaſt, and reſolved he wou'd acquaint *Hippolito* with her Uſage to him, which he did by the firſt Opportunity he cou'd meet with: But, good Heavens! How was *Hippolito* amaz'd when he heard him relate the Particulars. *Is it poſſible*, ſaid he, *that ſhe can be ſo ungrateful and perfidious to you, whom*

whom we both owe ſo much to? *I am aſham'd of it, and bluſh to think it ſhou'd be named, there-fore let it be forgotten, nor let her know I have heard of it, but take Five Thouſand Florins here,* with that ſhe gave him a Bill for the Money, *and pay it her for her Place; for ſhe will be* Zarah *in ſpight of* Hippolito.

Much about the ſame time *Ufrania*, a Lady about the Court, one who had good Intereſt formerly in the Houſe of *Albania* made Application to *Zarah* for a Favour, but at the ſame time knowing her Highneſs's Diſpoſition, brought a Pledge along with her, which without Ceremony ſhe offer'd to her, with earneſt Solicitations that ſhe wou'd pleaſe to accept of it.

it. *Zarah* took the Present, and looking upon it very narrowly, found it was not worth what she might get, or at least what she expected, for such a Piece of Service, return'd it to the Lady again with this Compliment, *Madam*, said she, with all the Subtilty of the Serpent, *methinks I am loth to rob you of such a Jewel as this; it looks like a Family Relick, and I don't question but you set a great Value upon it; beside, I am cloy'd with Presents of this Kind, and have great Occasions for Money; Five thousand Florins won'd please me much better, and it may be you may esteem that Jewel at double the Value*; when at the same time she knew the Jewel cou'd not be worth above a

Thousand

Thouſand *Florins*, and that was as much as was thought fitting by the Lady to offer for the Favour ſhe ask'd of her; for ſhe knew beforehand it was neceſſary to bid a Market Price, but cou'd not believe *Zarah* had been ſo unconſcionable as to overſtand the Market. Therefore ſhe went away with Regret, ſo Noble a Preſent wou'd not prevail with an Old Acquaintance to uſe her kindly.

But alas, this was nothing to *Zarah*, for a near Relation of hers making a kind Entertainment for her One Night, in the midſt of their Satisfactions thought it might be proper to move her Highneſs, who out of Compaſſion might do ſomething for an Infant or Two

ſhe had ſitting with her at Table: *Madam*, ſaid ſhe, *theſe are ſome of your own Blood, that may one Day live to thank you, if you will be ſo kind as to remember them when Opportunity ſerves.* This, tho' ſpoke with all the Modeſty and Regard poſſible to *Zarah*'s Quality, put her in ſuch a Paſſion as her Highneſs was ſubject to when ſhe had a mind not to be troubled with Solicitations. *Madam*, anſwer'd Zarah, *I thought you had known me better; what, do you take me for Queen of* Albigion, *that you apply your ſelf to me, as if I cou'd grant what I pleas'd? I'll aſſure you*, continued ſhe, *I have the Diſpoſal of nothing but* ——— ; and ſo ſhe broke up the Entertainment abruptly, mean while the

poor

Poor Lady was ready to expire betwixt Grief, Anger and Resentment.

FINIS.

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Manley, Mary DeLaRivière, 1663-1724

The secret History of Queen Zarah, and the Zarazians being a Looking-glass for Mary de la Rivière Manley In the Kingdom of Albigion

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